



GATEWAY CITIES PARTNERSHIP, INC

L. Snow
1. Johns
2. Kelly
Paul Marshall

FEB 22 2006

000215

February 3, 2006

Mr. Lester Snow, Director
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Director Snow,

On behalf of Gateway Cities Partnership, Inc, which has long supported a balanced solution in the Bay-Delta, I am writing to express my support for the Department of Water Resources' South Delta Improvements Program, a critical water supply, water quality and environmental project designed to meet California's diverse water needs.

Water is critical to our families, farms and businesses and SDIP will improve our water delivery system while also protecting our invaluable environmental resources without having to build or construct a new project or major infrastructure. SDIP will help protect fish species in Delta channels while simultaneously providing greater flexibility to managers operating the system of pumps, granting fish greater protections.

I am aware of the state's constraints to use surplus water supplies. We have the infrastructure to move the water, but until SDIP is approved, the state's water managers cannot fully or responsibly use the existing system. SDIP calls for only a 3-5% increase in the average amount of water pumped from the Delta.

It is our responsibility to use this precious resource wisely through all possible best management practices, including water conservation, recycling and storage, to accommodate business and housing demands. The South Delta Improvements Program offers a solution without incurring additional state expenditures, its funding was secured through voter-approved bonds in 2000 (Proposition 13).

I support the South Delta Improvements Program and ask that you act to ensure its benefits for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Richard Hollingsworth, President/CEO
Gateway Cities Partnership, Inc

cc (by facsimile):

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Hon. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, (916) 445-4633
Mr. Ryan Brodderick, Director, California Department of Fish and Game, (916) 653-7387
Mr. Mike Chrisman, Secretary, California Resources Agency, (916) 653-8102
Mr. Joe Grindstaff, Director, California Bay-Delta Authority, (916) 445-7297
Mr. Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, (916) 978-5114
Mr. Dan Skopec, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor, (916) 324-6358
Mr. Terry Tamminen, Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor, (916) 324-6358